

**CLAYTON COUNTY RECOGNIZES
MENTAL HEALTH MONTH
MAY 2013**

- WHEREAS:** The mental health of our citizens is essential to the continued well-being and vitality of our families, businesses, and communities; and
- WHEREAS:** Mental health issues affect parents, sisters, brothers and co-workers – all of the people in our lives. Since 1971, Clayton Center Community Service Board and their 200 plus employees provide services to Adults and Children suffering with Mental, Developmental and Addictive Disease Illness in 6 locations throughout Clayton County; and
- WHEREAS:** People with mental illnesses recover if given the necessary services and supports in their communities; and
- WHEREAS:** Stigma and fear of discrimination keep many who would benefit from mental health services from seeking help with only one out of two people with a serious form of mental illness seeks treatment; and
- WHEREAS:** Greater public awareness about Mental illnesses can change negative attitudes and behaviors toward people with mental illnesses. Mental Health Awareness Month encourages access to services and promotes recovery; and
- WHEREAS:** The 2013 observance of Mental Health Month will help raise awareness of the importance of mental health and the stigma people with mental illness face, while delivering the message that, with proper treatment, recovery is possible; and
- WHEREAS:** Clayton County recognizes the month of May 2013 as Mental Health Month and salutes the work of the Clayton Center; now
- THEREFORE:** I, JEFFREY E. TURNER, Chairman, on behalf of the Clayton County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 2013 as Mental Health Month in Clayton County, Georgia. I encourage all citizens, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illnesses, reducing stigma and discrimination, and promoting appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Clayton County, Georgia, to be affixed this 14th day of May in the year two thousand thirteen.

Jeffrey E. Turner, Chairman